

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-KS-2-01-03

Issued at Palmer: May 28, 2003

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m.  
Friday, May 30, 2003

Expiration Date: 12:01 a.m., Wednesday,  
October 1, 2003, unless superseded by  
subsequent Emergency Order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes a portion of the Deshka River to all fishing on Friday, May 30, at 12:01 a.m. The closed area extends from the Department of Fish and Game's fish counting weir at River Mile 7 downstream to a Department marker approximately 600 yards, and upstream from the weir to a Department marker approximately 200 yards. Regulatory markers define the closed area. Extending the area closed to fishing around the weir affords additional protection to salmon prior to passage to their upstream spawning areas.

### REGULATION:

**5 AAC 61.022 (d) WATERS, SEASONS, AND BAG LIMITS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS is amended to read:**

5AAC 61.022 (d) WATERS, SEASONS, AND BAG LIMITS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

(6) (B) Deshka River drainage:

SPECIAL PROVISIONS, The Deshka River is closed to fishing from approximately 600 yards downstream to approximately 200 yards upstream from the Deshka River weir at River Mile 7 as noted by regulatory signs.

Kevin C. Duffy,  
Commissioner

By delegation to:

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David Rutz,  
Area Management Biologist

### JUSTIFICATION:

Salmon migrating past the Deshka River weir at River Mile 7 commonly experience minor delays before proceeding upstream to spawning areas. This delay concentrates the resting salmon in pools a short distance above and below the weir where they become extremely vulnerable to harvest by sport fishers. A continued harvest of these vulnerable fish will jeopardize propagation of future runs. Therefore, it is warranted to extend the closed area downstream of the weir from 300 feet to 600 yards and upstream of the weir from 300 feet to 200 yards.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 2 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99518, (907) 267-2218.